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Trade, training on agenda as Kohl goes to China

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Weeks before Chancellor Kohl flew to Peking, foreign correspondents there were taking an unusually keen interest in the visit.

The reason was his trip to Tibet. Why was he going there?, the media wanted to know. Bonn diplomats were not merely guarded; they found it difficult to give any answers at all.

So it seemed reasonable to assume that the Foreign Office would have preferred it if Chancellor Kohl didn't go to Tibet. This has been denied in Bonn, but there are grounds for thinking that it is probable.

The Tibetans have suffered, more than people in any other region, for decades since Tibet was invaded and occupied by Chinese troops in 1950.

The Chancellor's visit to Lhasa — the first officially made by a Western head of government — casts a politically unnecessary shadow on his Chinese visit, which otherwise underscores the nexus of political, economic and cultural ties between the two countries.

Since the Chancellor's last visit to Peking in 1984 — and the return visits to Bonn by Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and the then Party leader Hu Yaobang — there have been hitches and changes in China that affect practical relations with the Federal Republic of Germany.

Domestically last winter's student unrest and the subsequent ouster of General Secretary Hu and attendant ideological front realignments showed China's reform policy to have reached a critical point.

Even if Deng Xiaoping and Premier (and acting Party leader) Zhao — the Chinese leaders Chancellor Kohl mainly talked with — are firmly back in control in time for the 13th Party Congress in October the pace of both domestic economic liberalisation and the opening of China to the outside world is likely to slow down for the foreseeable future.

In foreign policy terms the process of normalisation actively pursued by Peking with Moscow's five leading allies in Eastern Europe, culminating in Premier Zhao's tour of all five countries, revised China's official viewpoint on the German Question.

When Karl Carstens visited Peking as Bonn head of state in 1982 the Chinese government was more than willing to endorse Bonn's national objectives.

Now, as a concession to East Germany, whose support Peking is keen to enlist as a political and economic partner, the Chinese have retreated to the non-committal line adopted when East Berlin leader Erich Honecker visited Peking last autumn.

German reunification, China now says, is "a matter for peoples in the two German states to settle, always assuming it is to their mutual advantage and serves the cause of peace in Europe and the world."

The soft response Bonn has made (as far as one can judge) to this revision of Chinese policy may have been due to the realisation that China's views on the German Question may be important as those of a permanent member of the UN Security Council but that Peking is the last place that holds the key to a solution.

Regardless of this "divided" sympathy the Chancellor's talks with the Chinese leaders are sure to have revealed a substantial degree of agreement on basic issues of world affairs.

Premier Zhao recently referred to the Federal Republic's importance as China's foremost European trading partner and third-largest in the world after Japan and the United States (but disregarding Hong Kong).

What the Chinese welcome is that German industry, in evident contrast to Japan, is prepared to come to terms on technology transfer.

German firms are also prepared to invest generously in training and further training of Chinese students and specialists and, under pressure from the heavy trading deficit, to consider opening German markets more to Chinese products.

On the other hand German businessmen active in the China trade have shown signs of widespread disillusionment and less readiness to make advance concessions.

This is a result of China's consolidation and austerity policies; in the first quarter of 1987 German exports to China were down 21 per cent.

The last leg of Chancellor Kohl's visit to China took him to Lhasa — and the media were there waiting for him.

Chinese officials observed great restraint in their media treatment of the two-day stopover but are sure to have welcomed it and seen it as legitimising their role in the "autonomous region" of

Continued on page 2

Chancellor Kohl and his wife, Hannelore, welcomed in Shanghai on board the German training ship *Deutschland*. (Photo: dpa)

Weizsäcker, Genscher, mark out new horizons in Moscow

Page 2: Weizsäcker paves the way for smoother links with Moscow.

Richard von Weizsäcker and Hans-Dietrich Genscher marked out far-reaching political horizons during the *President's state visit to the Soviet Union.*

While the President in his Kremlin after-dinner speech noted the continued awareness among Germans of forming part of one nation, Herr Genscher recalled Franco-German reconciliation.

Using a figure of speech coined by Mr Gorbachov, Herr von Weizsäcker outlined a political design for the much-vaunted "common house" in Europe.

Coexistence of peoples in this house must, he said, no longer bear the hallmark of power gains and enemy concepts; they must be governed by the concept of common security and by the realisation that European was intellectually indivisible.

This culturally characterised Eurocentrism of Herr von Weizsäcker's met with a ready reception in Moscow, but not with a political concept for "Europe in the year 2000" as envisaged by Herr Genscher.

The *Pravda* censorship of Herr von Weizsäcker's speech at the point where he dealt with German unity was as clear a pointer in this direction as Mr Gromyko's reminder that Western Europe could make a substantial contribution toward the success of the US-Soviet disarmament talks.

For the Soviet leadership the Federal Republic remains a difficult partner, but one it would very much like to do business with. The solution to this paradox, as the Federal President rightly sensed, is to deal truthfully with the past.

The division of Germany and Europe remains, for the Soviet Union, a definitives, irreversible result of the Second World War.

Herr von Weizsäcker bore this point in mind in both expressing sorrow for the sacrifices made by the peoples of the Soviet Union and giving an assurance that the German people well knew how the division of Europe, Germany and Berlin had come about.

The "new thinking" under Mr Gorbachov calls, however, for a realistic appreciation of the fact that this past ought no longer to be used to exert pressure on Bonn. Soviet policy toward Europe can only be developed jointly with Bonn.

The Federal Republic as Moscow's preferred economic partner, especially in view of its importance within the European Community, will only be prepared to fully support Soviet development interests if political ties are developed with a view to the future.

That takes us from the peaks of European intellect back down to earth and to day-to-day politics, where more than enough stumbling-blocks lie.

State visits have a significance, mainly politico-psychological, of their own,

Continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

■ GERMANY

Barbie trial: a conviction for one man and a lesson for many



Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo chief in occupied Lyon, showed no sign of emotion when he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

As he was led out of the court he is merely said to have raised his hands and murmured: "Incredible!"

For the public the sentence was a foregone conclusion — and had been since long before the trial began on 11 May.

France's first trial for crimes against humanity is now over. The first surprise is that the proceedings went ahead as planned four years and three months after Barbie was arrested in Cayenne.

It was a trial before an ordinary assize court for out-of-the-ordinary criminal offences to which the statute of limitations had long applied.

It was a trial of systematic inhumanity judged by the standards of constitutional government and rule of law.

It was a trial in the shadow of the past yet in the full glare of international opinion. The conviction of one man and a lesson for many.

There had been many doubts expressed. There were fears for the reputation of the resistance. Barbie, it was feared, might tell tales of traitors and of murderous disputes within resistance ranks. But he didn't.

If Barbie were to be tried again in a year for events in connection with the arrest of resistance leader Jean Moulin the public would probably take a more level-headed view of the proceedings. The evil spell has been broken, leaving a more realistic, less glorified view of the resistance in occupied France, which need not be to the detriment of French historical awareness.

The Lyon trial recalled, for instance, the worst forms of French collaboration with the Nazis: the denunciation of people on the run, whether Jews or resistance fighters, by fellow-countrymen.

It reminded France that there were French assistants only too willing to help the German hangmen do their dirty work.

That may have been a well-known fact, especially by those who suffered most, the survivors, yet it had been conveniently, deliberately forgotten.

The film *Le chagrin et la pitié*, which featured more harmless, everyday forms of collective cowardice during the occupation, could not be shown for years in France.

The worst has now been said in public — by witnesses in court. The names of Klaus Barbie and Francis André are now interchangeable where maltreatment and humiliation of defenceless prisoners is concerned.

That should give German observers no reason for satisfaction. It merely confirms that evil finds willing helpers everywhere.

Where German observers can breathe a sigh of relief is in noting that the trial of the former SS Obersturmführer did not generate anti-German sentiment in France.

Before his trial on charges of crimes against humanity there was talk of the risk that crimes of bureaucratically supervised genocide of the Jews (and the gypsies) might be made more banal by being set alongside other Nazi crimes.

The wider interpretation of the term "crimes against humanity" adopted by the appeals court in Paris in December 1985 made it possible to include in the charge sheet the deportation and murder of resistance combatants.

These are offences to which the statute of limitations applies inasmuch as they are merely classified as war crimes.

Yet the genocide, the Nazis' "final solution," was not made to appear harmless by being listed alongside other offences.

The difference between concentration camps with a mortality rate due to "ordinary" inhumanity and the death camps with their gas chambers — between the likelihood of being murdered for what one had done and the certainty of being murdered for what one was — was not obscured in Lyon.

It was not obscured even though survivors who told their tales of suffering made no distinction between Jews and resistance fighters (unlike their lawyers and supporters).

A change has nonetheless occurred. Until the trial the French saw Barbie mainly as the man who caught and killed Jean Moulin. Asked what his worst misdeed was, most French people would now say the deportation of 44 Jewish children from a home in Izieu.

The image of these children in a summer garden has been superimposed on the faded snapshot of the mysterious resistance leader.

If there is a crime for which Barbie cannot be forgiven it is the murder of these children. Serge Klarsfeld, the lawyer who hunted Barbie for 12 years and represented the next of kin of the murdered children at the Lyon trial, can be satisfied.

Maître Vergès, Barbie's counsel, well knew why he concentrated on casting doubt on the authenticity of the telex reporting that the children had been deported.

Barbie well knew why he began his short speech in his own defence with the words: "I was not responsible for the Izieu raid." But who would believe him?

Thankmar von Münchhausen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 July 1987)

Debate over compensation for Nazi victims without a lobby

The Bonn government has produced a report on reparations and indemnification for the victims of Nazi injustice.

In it, the government pats itself on the back, saying that never before has a state tried to compensate victims of mass persecution and annihilation.

But the truth of the matter is not quite as simple as this.

The Allies ordered the Germans to pay reparations after the war. Payments made, first under orders, then voluntarily, have totalled DM78bn.

Reparations payments enabled Germany to gain a foreign policy foothold only a few years after the war was over.

Politics was at stake, as the Communists soon found to their cost, although they too had undeniably been persecuted in the Third Reich.

In the 1950s, against the background of the Cold War, they were barred from receiving indemnification if they continued as active Communists. Payments were only made to those who abjured their political beliefs.

That had nothing whatever to do with injustice suffered, such as concentration camp imprisonment. Martin Hirsch, the former Federal Constitutional Court judge and chairman of the Bundestag reparations committee, still feels that was an inexcusable mistake.

Reparations were paid, first and foremost, to those who had the most powerful lobby. No-one will begrudge the Jews the fact that they came in this category, especially as the survivors' suffering cannot be made good in cash.

How could any state possibly make amends for the Holocaust?

But there were other categories of people persecuted in the Third Reich who had no lobby whatever: so-called anti-social elements, the work-shy, the homosexuals, the Romanies, the forced labourers from Poland and the Soviet Union.

Where compulsory sterilisation is concerned, the doctors involved even claimed everything had been strictly legal and beyond reproach.

University professors who had served the cause of racial madness and been indirectly to blame for mass murder were reinstated — and in some cases even made members of the reparations committee.

They chose to disregard the fact that people who had undergone compulsory sterilisation led lives of despair, often incapable of love and mutilated in body and soul.

Or take the victims of Nazi euthanasia. Their next of kin can apply only indirectly for indemnification by showing that the murdered persons, if still alive, would have been their breadwinners.

How can this proof possibly be provided when the victim was gassed as unworthy of life? Families went through untold suffering, yet the murderers scornfully said they had been only too happy to see the back of the inconvenient relative.

A debate is now in progress in Bonn on victims of Nazi persecution who had no reparations lobby. We can but hope they have sufficient support in the Bundestag.

It is intolerable for representatives of the Nazi legal system, such as *Volksgerichtshof* judges, to be paid civil service pensions as long as Nazi victims are not even granted moral recognition as persecuted persons.

A country with a constitutional government and the rule of law cannot afford to leave the miscreants better off than their victims.

Ernst Klee

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 26 June 1987)

■ BERLIN'S 750TH ANNIVERSARY

Tour de France comes to the divided city

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The prologue and first leg of this year's Tour de France were held in West Berlin. They were described in official brochures as a direct link between the Kurfürstendamm and the Champs Elysées.

Radio and TV outside broadcast units covered the event live from Berlin's best-known boulevard, where shops were bedecked with red-, white- and blue-striped awnings to mark the occasion.

About 60,000 people lined the street to watch the start, and shops were specially authorised to sell from roadside stands. The entire city was in a Tour de France mood.

For days motorists had been warned on local radio of the traffic detours because of the prologue and the connected time trials. But many ignored the no parking signs and more than 110 cars were towed away.

Department stores stopped deliveries in the city centre and in areas affected by the traffic detours.

A man who wanted to buy a washing machine and have it delivered to his daughter on her birthday was told the store couldn't do it; the delivery van wouldn't have been able to get through.

The first leg of the Tour de France was Berlin's 750th birthday present to itself, an event intended to relay round the world scenes of the city that were good for its reputation.

President Reagan's televised speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate was a first-rate media event but the Tour de France, with the Brandenburg Gate as its backdrop, would, it was hoped, have a far more widespread appeal than any political event.

An estimated 200 million people watched on TV as French Premier Jacques Chirac and Berlin's governing mayor, Eberhard Diepgen, cut the tape to give the signal for the start.

Not for nothing was the route specially selected to include as many of the more attractive sights of the city as possible, including outlying farmland and the shores of the Havel, even if Gatow and Kladow on the west bank of the Havel were cut off from the rest of the city for hours while the race was in progress.

Seven residents had filed suits against the city in connection with these arrangements but withdrew them when the police gave doctors, midwives and the sick an assurance that police facilities would be fully available to ensure mobility in the event of an emergency.

Additional ferries crossed the Havel on the day, improving what, for a while, was the outlying area's last link with the rest of the city.

Mayor Diepgen was most keen to ensure that the Victory Column, a 19th century city landmark, was seen on TV. But at present the direct route, the Strasse des 17. Juni, which runs straight from the Brandenburg Gate through the Tierpark toward Charlottenburg, was closed to traffic.

The entire section of the arterial road from Grosser Stern to the Brandenburg Gate was the scene of construction work for the Historic Funfair, another summer spectacular forming part of the city's 750th anniversary celebrations. The Alternative List, an Opposition group in the city's House of Representatives, said Berlin had no connection whatever with the Tour de France; the city might just as well have hosted part of the All-England lawn tennis championships at Wimbledon.

This argument was easily disproved. Berlin has longstanding links with cycle racing, the mayor said. The first six-day race was held in the city in 1909. Races were regularly held in the boroughs until only a few years ago.

Wolfgang Wieland, spokesman for the Alternative List's representatives, said Berlin today did far too little for cyclists.

The Social Democrats were critical of the Christian and Free Democratic Senate for having agreed to pay DM3m for the privilege of hosting the Tour without as much as a murmur, let alone an attempt to bargain.

State secretary Karl-Joachim Kierey, chairman of the Berlin organising committee, said there had been lengthy negotiations about the fee to be paid.

Social Democrat Horst-Achim Kern, his party's spokesman on sporting affairs, didn't believe him, saying he had a copy of a letter that proved his point. He was critical of the Senate's "bread and circuses" approach to the anniversary celebrations.

Yet what is the DM4.5m the Tour de France has cost Berlin in comparison with the publicity benefit the city has gained? Herr Kierey feels sure the gain far outweighs the outlay.

The city's publicity budget this year totals DM19m, including DM2m to be spent in the United States alone. The Tour de France was a venture that made sound sense for all concerned.

Jacques Goddet, the sprightly 82-year-old Tour director, readily admitted that Berlin was intended as an example for others to follow in "adopting" a leg of the Tour de France.

British officials were in Berlin for the occasion, consideration having been given to holding the first leg of a future Tour de France in London.

Flying the entire Tour team to Berlin or London is no problem. So why should the Tour de France not be held in New York too?

M. Heuwagen

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 2 July 1987)



Tour de Berlin . . . the first stage of the Tour de France gets under way in front of the Brandenburg Gate. (Photo: dpa)

History and hullabaloo parade along East-sector streets

A platoon of Red Army soldiers dive full-length on to the tarmac, aim their rifles and fire. Then they race a few yards further forward and repeat the exercise. They finally rush and take possession of a truck to cries of victory.

On a stone parapet on the back of the truck they jubilantly raise a red flag. The call sign of Radio Moscow resounds from a loudspeaker and a voice announces in Russian that Soviet troops have reached the heart of the Reich capital, Berlin.

That was one of the main floats in the historic parade held in East Berlin to mark the city's 750th anniversary. 1945 was clearly a year not to be forgotten.

As Red Army soldiers acted out the storming of the Reichstag at the end of April 1945 the commentator referred to the Day of Liberation.

It was, he said, the day on which the occupying power distributed to the people of Berlin their "first bread of peace."

History can be told so easily when it toes the Party line. It was told on an unprecedented scale even for East Berlin.

Properties and costumes from theatres and opera houses all over East Germany must have been in use on city-centre streets.

The parade featured scenes such as the foundation of the city, the mediaeval guilds, Wallenstein's camp in the Thirty Years' War, Napoleon's entry into the city, Frederick the Great's elite guardsmen and kaleidoscopes of the Golden Twenties.

Oberbürgermeister Erhard Krack announced days beforehand that the parade would be absolutely spectacular. And it was. The press release was studded with facts and figures, many officials eqating quantity with quality:

"The festival parade will include 41,663 participants, including 21,496 part- and full-time artists and musicians. There will be 375 bands of all kinds.

"The procession will include 760 horses and 973 other animals. It will be over 10km long."

Yet it was a slight exaggeration to call it a historic parade. History took up only a little over an hour. The remainder was self-portrayal and reaffirmation of the socialist system.

Once the historic section had passed by the remainder marched inexorably past a grandstand full of Party and state VIPs, including General Secretary Erich Honecker and his wife Margot.

In the time-honoured manner organisations and factories throughout East Germany had been groomed for months for their part in the procession. Jubilation was more restrained among onlookers.

It was designed to look cheerful and gaily-coloured. That is how Herr Honecker would like to see East Germany — as the better German republic.

It was a mixture of folklore and carnival, Mardi Gras in Rio and Fasching in Cologne, with brass bands and miniskirted drum majorettes, bunches of flowers and candies for onlookers as the procession passed by.

It was a display of self-assurance and good cheer by East Germany rather than by East Berlin.

Some of the floats were slightly absurd, such as the fire brigade's gigantic plate-glass pool full of divers.

Others were simply in poor taste, such as the couple relaxing in a luxurious bed featured as an example of the work of the furniture industry. A banner proclaimed: "We bought the bed but the children will be all our own work."

Other floats were unrealistic, such as a display of fruit and vegetables from the countryside west of Berlin. It was a

Continued on page 6

Welcome, oh Soviet liberator . . . East Berlin celebrates by re-enacting entry of the Red Army in 1945. (Photo: dpa)

■ FINANCE

An atmosphere of crisis at Unctad meeting

There is an atmosphere of crisis surrounding the seventh United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) meeting in Geneva.

The first UNCTAD meeting was in 1964 as a result of pressure from 77 developing countries.

This year the industrialised countries are coming to Geneva in the throes of moderate economic growth. Yet the problems of developing nations are worsening.

Among the developing nations UNCTAD is the most popular event that the United Nations has to offer them. But the industrialised countries don't agree. For them it's nothing more than an expensive hyped-up carnival for some 3000 delegates from 160 different states.

This year, doubts about the competence of the conference have been louder than ever. At a press conference last week, Dadzie, the organisation's general secretary, was asked whether this year's conference would be any different than previous ones. Those, he said "who believe in miracles will be disappointed."

Despite its problems the conference has three major items on its agenda which might help to bring the rich and the poor countries together.

The developing nations find themselves in a fix. Most ideas for aiding development have failed. The proceeds from exports and the prices for raw materials in the southern hemisphere have fallen back to level of 1930.

The conditions for credit and loans from the World Bank and the IMF have become so restrictive for the debt-ridden countries that they no longer believe their peoples are prepared to accept them.

The main debate will discuss the so-called "Integrated raw materials programme" better known as the common raw material fund.

This is an agreement based on common contributions from trading partners which would hopefully maintain stable prices on the world market for these sensitive products. Were surpluses to force prices down, then according to the basic idea, the fund would intervene to hold up the prices.

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

The majority of the poorer nations make the lion's share of their income from the sale of unprocesssed raw materials.

Unfortunately although the agreement has not even been ratified, the common fund idea is already being seen as a failure.

Since the collapse of an agreement on tin in 1985 because of unending interventionism and a resultant build-up of enormous debts, the supporters of the free market economy have no trust in this concept anymore.

Western countries, with the exception of the USA, only ratified the agreement out of political considerations. Despite the opposition of free market orientated nations there are fears at the conference that the Russians and other East Bloc states, who are going through a period of liberalisation, might enable the fund to be ratified.

West Germany, which under this system would have to pay DM50M into the kitty, is recommending the EEC's Stabex system as a model alternative.

The EEC gives some developing countries with tottering export prices compensatory payments, in keeping with the Lome-agreement, to keep balance of trade stable. But even this model is embarrasingly powerless in the face of constantly falling prices.

The third theme will undoubtedly be the heavy indebtedness of the Third World. Developing nations want to convene a conference on world debt under the auspices of the UNCTAD. But one can see on the perimeter of the conference that there are huge differences of opinion on the matter.

The West rejects such a conference out of fear that they will be made to carry the can. Many advocates of a harder line counter with the argument that government mismanagement and disappearing capital are reasons why enormous loans rarely bring forth any fruit in the Third World.

The developing nations say that the West's currency, finance and protectionist policys must bear the responibility for their economic nose dive.

Even in the West German parliament there were loud exchanges between the parties on the subject. However the Greens were the party which supported the notion of a conference on debt.

The question of North/South trade is the third item on the agenda. It is probably the hottest issue at the conference. The West is not prepared to discuss the issue at the venue. According to an agreement such delicate issues come under the auspices of the GATT(General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

The Third World feel their views are better represented in Geneva where they have the majority. Their main aims are to tackle the trading and customs restrictions of the richer states for textiles, agricultural products and semi-finished goods.

The Americans have thought out something very clever. They are prepared to discuss trading issues if the Third World is prepared to negotiate on their service industry markets. The Americans have been yearning to get into the underdeveloped restricted bank and insurance market for years.

...It looks like as if there will be no new departure *at this year's UNCTAD* conference. The North/South dialogue will more than likely continue to be marked by the pragmatism of power-politics.

Marion Lorenz

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 5 July 1987)

Aim to protect against protectionism

The Bonn government intends backing UNCTAD moves aimed at strengthening the economic autonomy of developing and Third World countries.

UNCTAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, is meeting in Geneva. The measures would be intended to help restructuring so that some protection can be given against world trade protectionism.

The main themes of the UNCTAD meeting revolve around possibilities of improving growth and international trade by a strengthened multilateral cooperation.

The government will use the most recent OECD economic analyses and those of the economic summit in Venice as a yardstick. In addition to that they want to see effective reforms in developing countries as a requirement for mobilising resources to help international aid.

The readiness of the government *to increase* aid is accompanied *however by a* reluctance to finance projects *of an indefinite* nature.

The German government *will vote* against further market *intervention* agreements on raw materials.

Instead it wants to see less dependence on imports of raw materials and instead wants to see the promotion of further processing and marketing of materials.

It also wants to see more diversification and industrial production and research in order to improve the market position of more natural raw materials.

The Germans want to see *improved* access to the markets of the industrialised nations for products from developing nations, particularly for tropical fruit.

Bonn believes in principle that use of political pressure to regulate trading arrangements should be rejected.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 8 July 1987)

Slower growth in aid to Third World

Western aid to developing countries increased last year, but not as sharply as in previous years. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) says industrialised nations have increased aid to barely 0.36 per cent of their gross national products.

West German aid actually dropped for first time in six years. OECD is also worried about decreasing aid from the USA.

It says that many Third World countries are running into trouble because of financing difficulties.

Despite tremendous efforts to adjust their economies to economic realities, many developing countries had serious difficulties with foreign finance. By cutting back on foreign borrowing, developing countries managed to reduce imports and the number of new projects.

Only Asian countries increased their imports. In all the other developing regions imports stagnated or declined.

This reduction was however, weaker than the slump in exports. This meant many countries have had to dig into foreign currency reserves.

A small number of Asian countries such as South Korea managed to increase exports so much that little use of foreign currency was needed.

OECD says contributions from donor countries increased by 2.5 per cent this year to 37 billion American dollars, and increased thereby the contribution from the global gross national product from 0.35 to 0.36 percent.

But private contributions (direct investments, pension/stock loans and other loans) from Western countries decreased from $30.4bn to $26bn. Medium and long-term export-credits dropped from $2.5bn to $1.5bn. On the other hand the short-term export credits increased from $1.5bn to $4bn.

The total development aid of the OPEC countries climbed from $3.6bn to $4.54 bn. Saudi Arabia alone increased its contributions from $2.63bn to $3.56bn. The contributions of the Comecon countries increased from $3.57bn to $4.20bn, remaining small as usual.

The developing countries received from the donor nations last year a combined figure made up of public and private contributions which amounted to $84.7bn compared to $82.2bn in 1985. However after one takes into account price and currency fluctuations in 1985 this actually amounts to less.

OECD established that growth in development aid slowed down. The industrialised nations increased their contributions by a mere 2.5 per cent compared to 3.6 per cent in the previous five years.

Joseph Wheeler, the chairman of the Commission on Aid said that growth rate will actually fall to two per cent over the coming years.

The OECD claims that West Germany's aid has fallen for the first time in six years. It fell by 5.6 per cent to be barely $3.9bn.

however, despite that. *West Germany's* contributions are above the international average.

Experts are afraid that Germany will continue reducing aid in the coming years. France, Belgium and Austria have also been cutting contributions. They think the reason is the German government's tight money policy.

The OECD expressed worry at the decreasing contributions by the United States to international aid. The organisation concluded that the Americans contribute relatively less than most other industrialised nations.

It was claimed that the Americans tended to concentrate aid in countries which were important to American security policy.

The organisation admitted however that the USA made the biggest contribution to the OECD's aid programme. It amounted to a quarter of all the contributions made by the 24 organisation members.

Still when one takes into account the US's economic size, this figure begins to pale. It amounts to only 0.23 percent of US's gross national product.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 29 June 1987)

Continued from page 5

sight for sore eyes — but a far cry from what is available in East Berlin shops.

Another float featured the lakeside leisure facilities at Grünau, including two girls in topless beachwear relaxing in the shade of a parasol.

That was clearly too much for the First Lady, Margot Honecker, who shook her head in indignation.

The parade ended, inevitably, on a note of political pathos with a march-past by the Free German Youth (of which Herr Honecker was leader for many years).

Choruses of "Nuclear-Free into the New Millennium" and "Peace in the Cosmos, Peace on Earth" resounded round the centre of East Berlin.

And a flight of doves — doves of peace — was released into the blue sky above.

Heinz Verfürth

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 6 July 1987)

■ THE ECONOMY

A Land turns to technology to change its coal-dust-and-grit image

Economic policymakers in North Rhine-Westphalia gaze wide-eyed — like rabbits mesmerised by a snake — at reports of commercial and high-tech success stories from Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria.

On the Rhine and in the Ruhr, the largest industrial region in Europe, they look on cowedly but with growing indignation as Baden-Württemberg in the south-west is type-cast in the media as an El Dorado, leaving the west branded as a grimy poor-house.

Dynamic young enterpreneurs seem, as viewed from the Rhine and the Ruhr, to be attracted to locations down south like moths to a candle.

The Ruhr is convinced it has hidden its own light under a bushel for far too long. There is, for instance, the Dortmund technology park, where four firms from south Germany have been housed alongside the university.

The nucleus of the technology park is the Dortmund Technology Centre, with a modern, corrugated exterior behind which life goes on in much the same way as at technology centres all self-respecting German cities now seem to have set up.

Computer screens flicker in green and amber, industrial robots flex their muscles. Innovation and creativity are the keywords in a hotbed of technology transfer and spin-off.

Neither concept need be particularly alarming or grandiose. They can, for instance, stand for a junior university lecturer who decides to set up in business.

Views vary on what technology centres of this kind can achieve over and above the "climatic effect that has led to a mood of change in academic and industrial research and development in the region as a whole," as Dortmund would have it.

All that one young businessman who has set up at the Dortmund centre can think of off-hand is the lobby, the secretariat and the conference room the centre provides.

Yet the Dortmund centre is definitely one of the more successful ventures of its kind in the Federal Republic, charging fairly high rents of up to DM27 per square metre and thus being more market-oriented than many of its competitors.

Other technology centres handle young businessmen with kid gloves.

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Dortmund employs 178 full-time and 54 part-time staff of 37 firms. The technology park also provides a further 300 jobs. Other cities would be overjoyed to be able to report such figures.

In Dortmund, where unemployment is high (17 per cent), they are a drop in the ocean. The Hoesch steelworks have laid off 13,000 men in recent years and a further 3,000 are soon to go.

So despite industrial location efforts unemployment seems sure to increase, and Dortmund stands for the Ruhr as a whole, which bears the brunt of the structural decline of coal and steel.

Hoesch chief executive Detlev Karsten Rohwedder says the Ruhr would do well to roll up its shirtsleeves and set aside its past as soon as possible. Most politicians agree, although they might not say so as bluntly as he does.

Sleeves will certainly need rolling up when 3,000 steelworkers are made redundant in Hattingen, population 60,000.

As North Rhine-Westphalian Premier Johannes Rau is only too well aware, the crunch will then come not just for the older men who, aged 55 and over, have usually fared reasonably well with the aid of redundancy schemes and early pensions.

Younger men, the bedrock of the workforce, will be hit — and hit hard. After the next round of mass redundancies, Herr Rau says, North Rhine-Westphalia will have no choice but to go deeper into debt.

Yet no amount of outlay can achieve more than creating a handful of new jobs. Mass unemployment can no longer be prevented.

Herr Rau has not visited Hattingen even though, he fears, his failure to do so might create the impression that the *Land* government in Düsseldorf doesn't care about the soon-to-be-sacked steelworkers.

"I find it hard to make ritualised visits," he says.

Politicians in Düsseldorf, who are often accused by industry of pursuing inadequate economic policies, feel it is to their credit that there has been no Berlin-style riots in high-unemployment, problem areas of the Ruhr.

The social problems faced by people in parts of Duisburg, say, where people all worked for or depended on a single factory, long since closed, for their livelihood are no less serious than in Kreuzberg, Berlin.

Yet technological progress has not passed the hard-pressed steel industry by. Hoesch's showpiece, Rothe Erde-Schmiedag AG, for instance, need have no fear of international competition.

It can even proudly claim to be unbeatable for top-quality, king-sized roller bearings that can cost up to DM5m.

Temperatures inside the Dortmund foundry are a few degrees higher than at the technology centre, but foremen now also sit at control panels doing the little work the computer leaves him to do by hand.

The process computer not only makes up the best alloy for the job; it also programmes the RAW 315 ring roller mill for the right fit-out.

The foundry department at Aachen University of Technology proves that innovation is not a south German prerogative. Its research work is much more advanced than the 17th century cast-iron chimneypieces in the lobby might lead visitors to imagine.

One of the department's professors, Peter R. Sahm, was a scientific head of the D-1 Spacelab mission and is now working on preparations for D-2.

One of his specialities is computer simulation of metal solidification in the furnace, which is aimed at helping to improve production processes, cut costs and forestall mistakes in manufacturing.

Aachen research concentrates on solidification in the particularly favourable conditions that prevail in zero gravity.

Technology transfer is a buzzword for close cooperation between university and industry, which is keenly promoted in Aachen and throughout North Rhine-Westphalia.

One of the foremost tasks with which university professors are entrusted these days is raising industrial research funds.

The red tape has been scrapped. The Ministry is sure that mandatory publication of the details of research contracts will be enough to prevent abuse.

Long gone — or so it now seems — are the days when universities preferred to keep their critical distance from industry and were most upset when large firms snapped up the brain power of public-sector research institutes and the resulting patents.

Nowadays Ministry officials are delighted whenever they hear of a young academic who has decided to try his hand at free enterprise.

Science Minister Anke Brunn, who used to be an active member of the left-wing Socialist University League (SHB), is now a keen advocate of application-oriented research as a means of forging closer links between industry and the universities.

What, then, is the difference between Social Democratic industrial development and academic research policies in North Rhine-Westphalia and what Herr Rau calls *Späth-Kapitalismus* in Baden-Württemberg?

(Lothar Späth is the Christian Democratic Premier of Baden-Württemberg; his family name also means "late" in German.)

"Our policies are more unassuming," Herr Rau promptly says, adding that the problems faced by the Rhine and the Ruhr regions were long compounded by scarcity of land available for industrial development.

Besides, people say in the Ruhr with a shrug of their shoulders, anything Baden-Württemberg can do they can do at least as well — with the exception of the Black Forest and the Alps.

North Rhine-Westphalia boasts 163 of the 500 largest companies in the Federal Republic (by turnover).

It also boasts the highest degree of agricultural self-sufficiency, meeting an even higher percentage of its food needs than traditional farming areas such as Lower Saxony and Bavaria.

In 1985 the number of new businesses set up in North Rhine-Westphalia was slightly above the national average — and more than in Baden-Württemberg and Lower Saxony combined.

North Rhine-Westphalia is not just a region of coal and steel. Its highest-turnover industries are chemicals and mechanical engineering.

Yet large though the *Land* is and great though its potential may be, its problems are equally pressing.

Unemployment has been above the national average since the early 1970s. The coal and steel crisis has led to a city such as Oberhausen being reduced to per capita tax revenue of DM280, as against DM2,800 in other, comparable cities.

North Rhine-Westphalia accounts for 70 per cent of industrial waste in the

Continued on page 9

■ BUSINESS

Daimler-Benz board faces questions on wartime forced labour, South Africa

Some Daimler-Benz shareholders complained at the company's annual meeting in Stuttgart about its involvement in South Africa. The chairman of the board, Professor Werner Breitschwerdt, told the meeting that the company opposed apartheid and demanded equal oportunities regardless of race. But he said pulling out would not achieve this. It would merely result in black workers losing their jobs and being condemned to lives of misery. The board faced probing questions on other issues as well. One was over compensation for people used as forced labour during the war. Breitschwerdt said the issue was being considered and, although no individual claims would be considered, the firm was ready to work out a formula. Daimler- Benz has announced a turnover increase of one per cent to 31.5 billion marks for the first half of 1987 compared with the first half last year despite the buoyant German currency which was restricting growth.

Daimler-Benz has reorganised its managerial setup. Changes were necessary because the group has grown so large. Friction between the various units was increasing.

There is still some fine work needed on the reorganisation. The new style of leadership is a controversial mixture of functional competence and of departmental responsibility for the 11 members of the board of directors.

There were peripheral misgivings about the innovations because by absorbing the heads of three important holding companies, AEG, Dornier and MTU, it would mean that the controllers and the controlled would be all on the same board.

But the chairman of the board, Professor Werner Breitschwerdt, does not belong to the combined board, which is headed by the deputy chairman of the boadr and of finance Edzard Reuter, will help to alleviate matters.

This board is made up of Prof Dr Werner Niefer (cars), Dr Gerhard Liener (utility vehicles), Heinz Dürr (AEG), Dr Hans Dinger (MTU), Dr Johann Schäffler (Dornier) and Dr Rudolf Hörnig head of technology.

The problems which remain are mostly between between the heads of the newly created business portfolios and the departmental heads Dr Manfred Gentz and Hans-Jürgen Hinrichs, along with economic problems with materials.

At present it's still too early to say whether the far-reaching changes were the right ones.

Dr Gerhard Liener is taking proportional contributions to the concern's turnover as a yardstick for evaluating the results of the changes. The car branch has had a turnover of DM30bn and the utility vehicle branch DM18bn. This shows he said, "That the changes have led to more flexibility and efficiency."

Cars had, into the bargain, marketing and delivery problems and that must not be forgotten when evaluating success.

It's true to say that there had already been business portfolios at Daimler-Benz before the reorganisation but the decisions were taken by committees whose members came from different departments.

The difference now is that new managers of these portfolios, respective of whatever world-wide responsibility they have, are now subordinate to the Gerhard Liener or Werner Niefer.

This produced positive results by allowing undesirable developments to be corrected in time.

A string of unbroken successes meant that the self-confidence grew unabated. Attention to customer needs gradually became neglected. Many complained that friendliness, reliability of servicing and even the quality of the vehicles themselves had become worse. Admittedly as Niefer said to the *Handelsblatt* in December of 1986, the changing over to the catalysator placed the firm under a special strain.

They also had the problem that outside of the boardroom nobody was taking responsibility for development, production, distribution and marketing of products.

Things have now changed. Niefer made sure by mixing different age-groups he achieved a degree of continuity in decision making. With men like 61 year-old Dr Adolf Fritz, 59 year-old Eberhard Herzog, 46 year-old Dr Wolfgang Peter and Klaus-Dieter Vöhringer, he was able to find men who could relate the confidence of the car branch to the needs of the customer of tomorrow.

The history of the trucking division differs from the car division in that the organisation and, rightly or wrongly, felt neglected by the board.

The difficulties of the world-market, unemployment worries at the plants and difficulty in making profits, did not cultivate self-confidence. Even if the concern were technical pioneers and remained *the* world-leader for vehicles over six tons

A new self-confidence *seems to* have grown among the executives with the portfolios, who have been mostly *recruited by* Niefer from foreign companies *of the* concern.

Liener succeeded just as much as Niefer in putting together a mixed age-group team with 64 year-old Prof Arthur Mischke for development, 59 year-old Rolf Knoll for production, 43 year-old Jürgen Schrempp for Marketing and 51 year-old head of sales Horst Zimmer.

The successor to Prof Mischke who will be retiring will be 51 year-old Volker Rubi.

Waldemar Schäfer

(Handelsblatt, Hamburg, 1 July 1987)

VW and Toyota to make trucks together

Toyota, the world's third biggest car maker, is joining forces with Volkswagen, Germany's biggest, to produce light commercial vehicles.

It is a venture that raises many questions. One newspaper described it as a trojan horse to enable the Japanese to get round European Community import regulations.

There are no apparent reasons for the two giants to come together over a vehicle which makes up only a small part of the motor-vehicle market.

One can only assume that there is much more to it than a mere agreement to rescue a model with flagging sales.

Toyota chairman Toshio Miyaji indicated as much when he said: "The cooperation shows our resolve to get involved in Germany." This is in line with Toyota's "global 10 plan" to get 10 per cent of the world market.

Toyota has realised what other Japanese firms realised earlier, that a partnership with a European company is an excellent way of getting around customs restrictions — particularly with calls for protectionism in America and Europe becoming louder.

The global economy would appear to in for period of slower growth. Hahn, the board member at Volkswagen let it be know that they would not be hiring any new workers. Goeudevert of Ford voiced the same some time about his company.

When two market forces are making an effort to cooperate, they are unlikely to let it rest with the production of a modest special vehicle. One can safely assume that they have other intentions up their sleeve.

Volkswagen have already an agreement with the Japanese compan Nissan. Maybe this connection can provide a clue. Up till now they have been cooperating with the Germans in the Far East. The Santana assembly plant there can hardly be seen as a success.

The solution to the mystery might be the intention of Volkswagen to change over to Toyota for the Japanese market. The future will tell how that intend to arrange this.

Arnulf Schöbitz

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 5 July 1987)

Huge currency-transactions loss dominates carmaker meeting

Volkswagen's annual meeting in Wolfsburg was more like a Hollywood film premiere than a coming together of shareholders. The scandal of the loss of DM480m in dubious currency transactions had attracted a lot of people curious to see how the board of trustees would explain their way out of it.

The meeting had made a lot of headlines and had created a lot of excitement. Never before had a German company made losses of DM480m in fraudulent currency speculations.

Expectations were great and many believed that the meeting would be turned into a tribunal.

The meeting itself proved to be less spectacular than was expected. The publicity surrounding the affair had created too many expectations.

As the statement of accounts was read by the board the hall was still quite full. Many visitors had been already standing for two hours squeezed together in the entrances.

Everybody paid attention to what was said. There were few expressions of annoyance, not even when Karl Gustav Ratjen, the chairman of the board requested rather than pleaded for the present board and board of trustees to issue an exoneration.

It was quite noticeable that chairman Hahn received more applause for his report than Ratjen.

Whoever came expecting to hear aggressive exchanges between shareholders' representatives and the board was disappointed. The midday atmosphere ensured that the mood remained civil.

After a while people vacated the hall to eat in a nearby tent. Even speakers for the shareholders behaved in a comparatively tame manner.

They did not fail to criticise of the limp controls of the company's currency department. But they were more interested in supporting Hahn's call to forget past mistakes and to concentrate on the future.

The speaker for the German society for the protection of stocks and securities who had called for a motion to make



the board responsible changed his mind. He called instead for future policy to be dependent on statements of the board.

Even the Deutsche Bank, which represented 24,000 shareholders, poured oil onto the troubled waters. Board member Werner Blessing said that an abstention was neither fish nor fowl and that according to the report of the German Trust Company one could exonorate the board and board of trustees.

This succeeded in breaking the ice.

The rows of trustees on the podium and the shareholders became visibly more relaxed.

A speaker for small shareholders took the opportunity to call upon the visitors to applaud the company's management.

Approval was large enough. Nearly as large as the applause which accompanied the wish of another shareholder, that the federation and *Land* of Lower Saxony, should reduce their holding of 40 per cent of the stock for the *benefit* of the concern.

Volkswagen's annual meetings are like any other meetings. They are a true reflection of the population structure. Young people take part who have probably received shares from their parents as well as many well-groomed elderly people.

Volkwagen as a peoples' company is not a slogan rather an economic fact. There are believed to be about 400,000 shares in the whole of West Germany.

And these people seemed to have a greater need to take the firm out of the red than to have an embarrassing showdown with the company.

Ratjen and Hahn recognised this wish and in a rhetorically skilful manner used this to dampen the situation.

Selowsky, the former finance director, was left to face the music as the culprit but at the same the personal tragedy of his case was referred to. He had been ill but had not been deposed from his post and as a result the lion's share of the currency exchanges got past him.

Konrad Mrusek

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 July 1987)

■ RESEARCH

Of cavorting seals and salty herrings and drifting regiments of plankton

KielerNachrichten

The Institute of Oceanography, looking out over Kiel Bay, is one of the largest facilities of its kind in Europe. It has a staff of about 230 and over 150 research students.

Politicians praise its scientific achievements and the city promotes its aquarium and seal enclosure as a tourist attraction.

The institute was founded 50 years ago and it has become one of the sights of Kiel, the capital city of Schleswig-Holstein.

More than 100,000 people a year visit the bayside aquarium and nearly all pedestrians stop and look at the seals as they cavort in their open-air enclosure.

Further attractions include a shoal of herrings that is constantly replenished from fresh catches.

A recent video analysis showed that Kiel's aquarium herrings cover a distance of about 10,000km a year.

The institute's four research vessels are either at their moorings in the bay or at work in the North Sea, the Baltic or further afield.

Poseidon, *Alkor*, *Littorina* and *Sagitta* log over 70,000 knots a year — over three times the circumference of the globe.

The Kiel scientists on board record temperatures and salt counts of seawater, take samples of water and sediment, fish or lay buoys with measuring devices and containers attached.

Oceanography calls for international collaboration. Visiting oceanographers work in Kiel and Kiel research staff work for a while at other institutes.

Kiel collaborates on many projects with Third World countries. It has barely enough staff to meet the demand.

It works all over the world and is currently in charge of two special research projects sponsored by the Scientific Research Association (DFG): the "Atlantic Warm Water Sphere" and "Sedimentation in the European Polar Sea."

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency, Berlin, and the Federal Research Ministry, Bonn, both back the Kiel oceanographers' environmental and climate research.

The institute maintains a biological survey of the western Baltic for the Federal government in accordance with the Helsinki Convention. Another important sector pioneered in Kiel is plankton research.

In 1697 Samuel Reyher, professor of law and mathematics at Kiel University, first probed the salt content of water in Kiel Bay.

In 1870 the Prussian Commission for Research into the German Seas was set up in the city and a biological survey of the bay was carried by physiologist Victor Hensen and zoologist Karl Möbius.

In 1889 the research vessel *National* set sail from Kiel to the Atlantic on its first plankton expedition.

At the turn of the century Kiel geographer Otto Krümmel published the first manual of oceanography; it remained a standard textbook until the 1930s.

On 15 June 1937 Adolf Remane, a zoologist, set up the Institute of Oceanography at Kitzeberg on the outskirts of the city. Seven years later the building was destroyed in an air raid.

Ten of the staff, including the institute's director, Hermann Wattenberg, died in the ruins.

Postwar reconstruction began elsewhere in the city and by 1946 the new director, Georg Wüst, managed to get hold of the former radar vessel *Südfall* as a research cutter for the institute.

The ship was renamed *Hermann Wattenberg* 12 years later and is still sailing under the new name, but has been privately owned since 1976.

In the 1960s German oceanography made brisk headway. As its old centres in Berlin and Hamburg had been destroyed during the war, Kiel took the lead.

Under Günter Dietrich, director from 1959 to 1968, the institute expanded fast and furiously. In 1966 the research cutter *Alkor* and the launch *Sagitta* were taken into service, followed in 1975 by the *Littorina* and in 1976 by the *Poseidon*.

The institute had by then reached a size larger than that of a conventional university department. In 1968 Schleswig-Holstein and the Federal government agreed to hive it off from the university.

A subsequent change led to the institute being "blue-listed" and joining the ranks of research facilities jointly financed by the Federal and *Land* governments and the *Länder*.

The Kiel oceanographers long suffered from being located in up to 10 different buildings. In 1972 the various units were rehoused in a new building on Düsternbrooker Weg where the Parkhotel once stood.

The site included moorings for the institute's research vessels, the aquarium and the seal enclosure.

As it grew more successful and was entrusted with further tasks the new quarters again became too cramped. Work on an extension began in November 1984; it is due to be taken into service by the end of this year.

The institute will then incorporate three new central research laboratories, a new computer centre and ample library space.

It has long ceased to be a mere institute and can fairly be said to have become an institution.

Manfred Gotsch

(Kieler Nachrichten, 15 June 1987)

Continued from page 7

Federal Republic and half the country's sources of static emission in need of pollution control (9,000) smokestacks, as against 2,500 in Baden-Württemberg).

"These are problems in which the Federal government ought to be showing an interest," says Herr Rau, "but it isn't."

Herr Rohwedder is also critical of the lack of interest in the Ruhr in Bonn, pillorying Economic Affairs Minister Martin Bangemann in particular.

The Hoesch chief executive is depressed that "nothing is done for steel, whereas farmers are backed to the hilt."

In North Rhine-Westphalia there is a growing feeling that Chancellor Kohl plans to get his own back on the "Red" Ruhr and let it stew in its own juice for a while yet. But Premier Rau says North Rhine-Westphalia is not a basket case yet; what it needs is an economic policy, not a welfare policy.

Herr Rohwedder may have struck a sore point with his reference to the farmers. The farmers are so annoyed at present that traditional political allegiances are being set aside and they are ready to give others a hearing.

That is bound to prompt Bonn politicians to woo them.

The Ruhr miners and steelworkers, in contrast, whether in work or out of work, are still firm supporters of the SPD. So Herr Rau's success as a Social Democrat could handicap him as *Land* Premier.

"People feel at home here," he says. But they take a jaundiced view of the unattractive picture of them painted in further-flung parts of the country. "You can hardly blame them for feeling resentful."

Stefan Geiger

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 6 July 1987)

Oceanographers head for the Lung of the Seven Seas

The research vessel, *Polarstern*, has set out on its 10th expedition. It is to serve as a base for a major international research programme off the Greenland coast.

The Greenland Sea, from Spitzbergen and Jan Mayen Island to Greenland, is the scene of a large-scale international research project lasting until 1993.

Oceanographers from Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Britain, Canada, the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany will examine the inter-relationship between the atmosphere, the ocean and the cryosphere in the Greenland Sea Project (GSP).

The project began with the second stage, just completed, of the fourth Arctic expedition of the German research vessel *Polarstern*.

From 9 June to 2 July 56 scientists led by Professor Jens Meincke of Hamburg University measured temperatures and salt and oxygen counts in the Greenland Sea between 72° and 80° N. This area is regarded by oceanographers as the lung of the seven seas.

Many deep-sea ocean currents originate in the surface water of the Arctic, which is particularly dense on account of extreme cold and a high salt count and tends to sink down to the seabed,

This water is, as a rule, very rich in oxygen, which is a major prerequisite for the life and food cycle in the sea.

In addition to its role as the oceans' oxygen reservoir this area plays a unique part in the world's overall climate system.

Its meridional direction allows Atlantic water to flow north into ice-clad Arctic waters and cold Arctic water and ice to flow south into more temperate zones.

The Greenland Sea is one of the world's foremost climate centres, serving as a window between the ocean and the atmosphere.

The *Polarstern* returned from its mission with data confirming what had previously been merely hypothetical assumptions on the composition and extent of high salt count deep-sea water from the Arctic Ocean.

The *Polarstern* laid 11 current measurement chains in the Greenland Sea to add to readings taken.

They will stay there until next year to gather data over a longer period.

The area is particularly important for biologists too, being crossed by two major front systems.

The Arctic front, about 300km long, runs from Jan Mayen Island to Spitzbergen. Fairly warm Atlantic water here runs up against cold water from the Greenland Sea.

The second front is the Polar front, 500km long, from northern Greenland to Iceland, which is known to play a major role for fishery in its southern section.

Biologists are particularly interested in the distribution of species and the productivity of phytoplankton, the first link in the maritime food chain.

It will be a while before data are fully evaluated, but during the first stage of the Arctic expedition remote observation methods were integrated in the research programme.

Satellite photographs already indicate the fronts, but the resolution of satellite photographs is fairly low.

So the Polar 2, a research aircraft operated by the Alfred Wegener Institute, Bremerhaven, was flown from Longyearbyen on Spitzbergen.

The aircraft was equipped with a temperature and an ocean colour sensor. The colour sensor records water colours from which inferences on the density of phytoplankton may be drawn.

The sensor was calibrated, as it were, by means of readings taken for comparison from on board the *Polarstern*.

In future, ocean fronts are to be probed in areas where preliminary surveys have already been undertaken.

That will save shipping expenses and enable expeditions to be planned in much greater detail within a larger area of ocean.

The research programme of the ship's tenth expedition also includes tests of a new laser system to measure vertical ozone distribution.

A laser measuring system was used on the first two stages of the expedition to record the vertical distribution of ozone at altitudes of between 5,000 and 50,000 metres.

The aim is to provide more detailed and, above all, continuous measurements of annual ozone changes in the atmosphere.

The *Polarstern* is now back at sea on the third stage of its Arctic expedition.

Under the scientific direction of Professor Jörn Thiede of Kiel University the ship will sail as far north as possible into the Nansen Basin north of Spitzbergen to carry out geoscientific, oceanographic and biological studies on a long cross-course.

The ship is expected back in the Federal Republic on 3 September.

Christine Reinke

(Die Welt, Bonn, 7 July 1987)

■ FILMS

Peasants watch as a vile-tempered actor demands a Mercedes

Hannoversche Allgemeine

A shot is heard. A gun barrel slowly comes into view. The black porters with a small caravan drop their packs and litter and rush off into the scrub.

From a ruined church the man holding the rifle, the bandit Cobra Verde, emerges.

"Your money or your life!" he cries, with his straggly blond hair and crossed ammunition belts, looking at the litter, its curtains still drawn.

Before the beautiful brunette has time to purse her lips and answer him, the bandit yells: "Scheisse, fuck it, you idiots haven't got a bloody clue!"

He lobs his rifle at the camera and clamours for a beer. He is actor Klaus Kinski and on location in Cartagena, a former slave-trading post in northern Colombia.

It is his fifth film with director Werner Herzog.

It is a hot day. Herzog knew even before Kinski arrived that it was going to be a hard day. He was certainly proved right.

The camera team led by Viktor Ruzicka retires to the shade of a ruined leprosy treatment centre. It is hot and sultry.

They spend hours waiting for the star, Kinski, whose extravagances and hysterical escapades on location in Ghana and Colombia hang over the whole team's heads like a dark cloud.

Herzog alone is addicted to Kinski's everyday madness. He tolerates everything. The waiting, the verbal outbreaks, the constant know-all behaviour, the permanent blackmail. Does he have a streak of masochism?

Tierra Bomba is a barren island off Cartagena. The villagers sit in the trees round the location like a swarm of skinny birds. The extras wait stoically, like the donkeys in the caravan.

At long last the star arrives — on board a motorised yacht, by courtesy of the producer. The show begins. The star is hopping mad. Herzog tries to pacify him.

Kinski, a larger-than-life 60-year-old, storms through the brush along the shore, gesticulating wildly.

His blond Cobra Verde mane makes the entire scene somehow grotesque. With somnolent attention the crew watches the midday scene from a distance.

Kinski looks for all the world like a courting cock with his white dress shirt — and Herzog like the hen in his bleached, sweat-soaked blue sports shirt.

The crew know in advance what the outcome of the ritual will be. Sooner or later Kinski will calm down and change into his costume for the next take.

Today it is later. Kinski feels let down; Herzog shot an early-morning scene with Brazilian dancers without him. He demands the immediate destruction of the footage taken and threatens: "I need only to ask my doctor about my backbone and you'll be on your own." The camera assistant has to calculate how much of the reel is the footage in question. Kinski is as mistrustful as a maiden aunt. He insists on the entire reel being opened. "Another DM1,000 down the drain," says Herzog's brother, Lucki Stipetic, the location organiser, commenting on the absurd scene.



Director Werner Herzog (left) is addicted to Klaus Kinski (right) and his filthy tempered outbursts, but no one else is. (Photo: Concorde Film)

Herzog kowtows to his star more than once on this particular day. Kinski is particularly worked up when it comes to the critical kiss scene with the lady in the litter.

He calls her darling and writhes with her for minutes in the dust a tropical storm has transformed into simple mud.

Herzog is assigned an extra's part by Kinski. The director has to repeat the scene and writhe in the dust in front of the star.

Kinski takes hold of the camera, stands over Herzog and points the lens down at him like a spear driven into a victim.

Then comes a spate of creativity. Kinski feels the need for speed. In successive fits of mania and irascibility he urges the crew to speed up the action, scares the stoical black extras, shoots, repeats a scene, kisses, writhes and attains an alarming degree of obsession and identification.

Kinski the exhibitionist borderline case allows himself very little protection in these moments of action on location. Even outsiders come to realise why Herzog is so fascinated by him.

Cobra Verde, scheduled to cost DM5.7m, is the fifth Herzog film starring Kinski.

The others were Aguirre, 1972, Nosferatu, 1978, Wozzeck, 1978, and Fitzcarraldo, 1981.

Herzog's brother sees this latest film as Kinski's last attempt to show the world that he is the real creator behind Herzog's films.

It might be a film about the slave trade, but the leading role is played, as ever, by personified solitude, Cobra Verde, the lone bandit.

He becomes a great loner as a gold prospector, then an influential string-puller who gets all three of the planter's daughters pregnant, and is eventually sent to certain death by the city council.

Cobra Verde is to be sent to Africa to revive the declining slave trade. There too he rises to the highest posts in an African kingdomn.

After domestic unrest between unequal royal brothers a spectacular army of Amazons decides the outcome.

But the future is no longer with Cobra Verde. He has long joined the ranks of the deceived. When he tries to set out to sea a wave washes him overboard and he drowns.

There will be no further repeat of the Kinski-Herzog line-up after Cobra Verde — says producer Stipetic:

"That is my dream and my firm belief. Simply because it is no *longer* bearable."

He feels Kinski is interested *mainly in* the money. "He needs it badly, which is why he agreed to work for only half what he earned in Fitzcarraldo."

Almost daily the entire production teeters on the brink of an abrupt end. Such as when Kinski fumes: "If he (another actor) comes into the picture again I'll kick him in the balls. It's my face that counts, not his."

The other man, a Colombian, stutters and has a glazed look about him. The scene seems almost irretrievably done for. Yet Herzog, as gentle as a therapist, saves the day yet again.

Kinski has his own way. The producer pays DM900 a day for his villa in Cartagena, which happens to be the Chilean ambassador's holiday home.

Kinski insists on a Mercedes, which is virtually unobtainable. And when it arrives the ambassador's son is its chauffeur.

The entire set-up seems on the brink of collapse at any moment. But Salvatore Basile, a tall Italian with a Kojak-style shaven head, a deep voice and a shrewd and human point of view, wisely puts it all into place.

"What is this film stress *with the ex*alted excitement of a Kinski when compared with life?" he asks. "An insignificant nothing. A trifle."

Yet that night even he loses his patience. He is seen crying on the Plaza de Aduana in Cartagena, which has been specially given an old-world look by means of tons of sand and stone.

The following morning slaves were to have been whipped under Kinski's suggestive stare. But the star is bedridden with a blood pressure of 200 and in a state of anxiety. Shooting has had to be cancelled for three days.

The next morning, as the Sun shines down on the empty square, the descendants of the slaves of yesteryear sweep the dust back into primitive wheelbarrows without stopping to ask questions.

It's an ill wind that blows no-one any good. Cobra Verde and Kinski's high blood pressure have earned at least them a handful of unexpected pesos.

Concorde, the distributor, expects the film to be in German cinemas by the beginning of December.

Helmut Lesch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 July 1987)

■ THE THEATRE

A puff of drama over sponsorship and a lot more besides

Handelsblatt
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZEITUNG

For nearly a fortnight world drama reigned supreme in Stuttgart, laying the other arts low in the Baden-Württemberg capital.

The world drama festival is held at regular intervals by the International Theatre Institute. It was last held in Frankfurt in 1985.

In Stuttgart the costs were shared equally by the Federal government, the *Land* of Baden-Württemberg and the city.

There was far more to see in the 14-day theatre marathon than just drama.

Commercial sponsorship also funded the festival. Philip Morris was strongly in evidence in theatre foyers, much to the annoyance of Green city councillors who felt that one of the last public spaces free from advertising had been forfeited.



The Grand Old Man of modern dance theatre, Japan's Kazuo Ohno. (Photo: dpa)

Yet cultural life in Stuttgart was immeasurably the richer as a result.

Whether the festival lived up to its claim to convey a comprehensive impression of the international theatre landscape is another matter.

Too many big names were not there for this claim to be justified. They included Giorgio Strehler and Achim Freyer, Paul Taylor and the new East German ballet. Competition from other festivals is simply too great.

But the aim was not, despite a slogan coined at the festival press conferences, to hold an Olympic Games of the stage at seven venues, several newly opened, in Stuttgart.

The *Tanzhalle* was one such newcomer, a converted tram depot, while the *Kammertheater* and the *Alte Reithalle* were upgraded as festival venues.

So the world drama festival largely avoided the established theatres — and the usual theatre audiences. The festival was, above all, a festival of young people.

What was there to see? Productions from the United States and Japan in particular and the ballet programme.

International participants included companies from Brazil, France, Hungary, Italy, South Africa and the Soviet Union.

One of the highlights was a guest performance by the Taganka Theatre and Dramatic Art Academy, where Yuri Lyubimov used to work.

It presented a four-and-a-half-hour work, *Cerceau*, by the young Russian playwright Viktor Slavkin.

Petushok, a 40-year-old engineer who has lived his entire life in a small attic, inherits a dacha, or country cottage, from his grandmother.

He invites friends — and a Russified Swede he has met on the street — to stay there.

Petushok imagines they are all like him: lonely, unmarried, without partners.

"Now we are six," he says, "because we are here together. But as soon as we leave we will each be on our own again."

Western laments are sounded. There is no mention of government restrictions. It is a matter of the purpose of life over and above money and success.

His aim is a new sense of togetherness, an alternative to social collectivism in which individuals are alone.

But *Cerceau* is not a tendentious play — and a far cry from the pro-government socialist realism that East Bloc companies used to present at international drama festivals before the days of *glasnost*.

US drama was represented by enfant terrible Peter Sellars and the old master of the post-moderns, Robert Wilson, who guested last season with *Alkestis* and an opera, *Alceste*, in Stuttgart.

His latest, *Quartett*, continues his cooperation with Heiner Müller.

Wilson's symphonies of light may now be well-known in Germany and lack the appeal of something new, yet they still wield their constant fascination.

Quartett is based on Choderlos de Laclos' erotic novel in letters, *Liaisons Dangereuses*, 1782, and Wilson for once shows a great proximity to his subject matter. It is easy to understand why he has extended it to include five actors and simultaneous dance sequences in interpretation of Müller's play and not just as a quarry for his own theatrical imagination. Peter Sellars presented Mozart's *Cosi fan tutte* and Sophocles' *Ajax* — attempts at modernisation that at first glance seem coarse and antiquated. Yet the transposition of the Mozart love puzzle to an American coffee shop and the transformation of the Ancient Greek drama into a tribunal against an American general by the name of Ajax work. They only do so because Sellars does not eliminate the difference between the original and the latter-day version. He retains it, using drastically American theatrical language. Only original productions were performed at the festival. That led, in many cases, to serious problems of comprehension partly offset by simultaneous translation and by plot summaries.



Quartet for five . . . Robert Wilson's version of Heiner Müller's *Quartett* was extended to five actors. (Photo: dpa)

Such difficulties could almost be forgotten where the Ancient Greek classics performed by the Suzuki Company of Toga, from Japan.

Director Tadashi Suzuki seemed to have transformed Euripides' tragedies into original, traditional Japanese drama, with actors wearing magnificent costumes moving with enormous vocal power and gestures round an almost bare stage.

German audiences found it a somewhat abstract pleasure to see for themselves what Japanese theatre can accomplish.

The entire festival cannot possibly be covered in such a short article.

There was, for instance, the Market Theatre from South Africa, which created a furore with The Earth Players and the anti-racist but entertaining play *Bopha*.

There were the Hungarians with a superb version of Chekhov's *Three Sisters*.

But a word or two must be said about the ballet programme, which was given such rave notices in advance. Neither Michael Clark from Scotland nor Mark Morris from America nor Rosas, the Belgian women's ballet company, lived up to expectations.

Morris and Clark assaulted sensitive ears with their decibels but delighted the pop concert public. In ballet terms both companies were witty and virtuoso, but at best fashionable in their modernity.

The sole performance by Carlotta Ikeda from Japan, a major representative of Butoh, a dance form that took shape in the 1960s, was a revelation.

In seven scenes she celebrated her dancing beyond the limits of semantic mime or choreographic formalism.

Her performance was dancing in a primal sense. Her ecstasy did not overblow into emotion; it emerged from basic human activities such as laughing, crying, giving shape and celebrating.

Last not least there was the Sosta Palmizi company, an Italian counterpart to Pina Bausch in Wuppertal, as it were, but more intensive, in the Mediterranean manner, than on stage in the Ruhr.

The ballet performed in Stuttgart, *Il Cortile*, took place in a sand-covered back yard where people moved around in childlike hilarity or like mad adults — but definitely most vividly, dancing exactly and uncompromisingly.

The festival was managed by Ivan Nagel, who supervised a similar venture in Hamburg in 1979.

His stated aim when he took over as general manager of the Stuttgart Schauspielhaus was to present living, modern drama. He definitely did so at the end of his contract in Stuttgart.

Richard Lorber

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 3 July 1987)

On target. George Coates' group. (Photo: dpa)

THE ENVIRONMENT

New minister faces mountains of garbage and other problems

RHEINISCHER MERKUR

Klaus Töpfer, Minister of Environmental Affairs, Nature Conservation and Reactor Safety, is a newcomer to Chancellor Kohl's Bonn Cabinet.

He is only half-way through the first 100 days in which, it is generally agreed, politicians must be allowed time to settle down to the job.

Yet he has already come by a variety of epithets. The Bonn Opposition hailed him, even before he officially took over from Walter Wallmann, as the chemical multis' man, to quote Volker Hauff, Social Democratic spokesman on environmental affairs.

In his previous job as Rhineland-Palatinate Environment Minister in Mainz he was claimed to have only half-heartedly championed the cause of stricter emergency regulations for chemical catastrophes.

Herr Hauff's fellow-Social Democrat Harald B. Schäfer dubbed the newcomer "Minister of appeals" because, in his opening speech to the Bundestag, he mentioned the need for a general sense of responsibility and for all concerned to be prepared to cooperate.

Herr Töpfer himself, who with his impish smile is unperturbed by such verbal exercises, has dealt mainly, in his first weeks at the helm, with the growing mountains of garbage and their disposal by means of new incinerator plant.

He says he would prefer not to be dubbed Minister of Garbage but admits to being the man who must act on things like contaminated whey.

The 5,000 tonnes of contaminated whey powder, a legacy of Chernobyl provisionally stored in goods waggons in railway sidings in Meppen and elsewhere, graphically show what urgent problems the environment portfolio faces and how recalcitrantly they defy off-the-peg solutions.

"I had nothing to do with the radioactive whey before I came to Bonn," he says. He could, with an easy conscience, argue that he was not personally to blame.

That would be a serious error of judgment. Since taking over at the Palais Schaumburg, the official residence of the head of state, where his Ministry is temporarily housed, the whey has been his problem.

It was a Greek gift he could have done without, but everyone expects him to cope with the problem. It is, after all, his job.

Technically, decontamination of the white milk powder is no problem. A process devised by Professor Roiner of Hanover University would do the trick.

But Herr Töpfer has yet to find a dairy that is prepared to treat the whey, especially as the treatment would take months. This is a problem that has so far defied solution. Only 30 tonnes a day can be treated and, as for the expense, the state is in such a tight spot (through no fault of its own, it is only fair to add) that it may have to pay any price demanded.

Environment Minister Klaus Töpfer shows just how big his task is. (Photo: Poly-Press)

Walter Wallmann was appointed as the first Federal Environment Minister in spring 1986, there previously having been an environmental affairs department at the Interior Ministry.

Setting up a separate Ministry was Chancellor Kohl's answer to Chernobyl. An escape valve had to be provided for emotions generated by the Soviet reactor disaster.

Besides, Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann had not handled Chernobyl at all well. Conflicting contamination figures — and alleged safety margins — supplied by local and regional authorities totally confused a worried public.

Less than a year after his appointment Herr Wallmann, previously mayor of Frankfurt, won the Hesse state assembly elections with a Bonn-style coalition line-up of Christian and Free Democrats and moved to Wiesbaden as Prime Minister of his home state.

That gave the Chancellor an opportunity of appointing Klaus Töpfer to take his place. Professor Töpfer is an expert and Chancellor Kohl has had his eye on him for some time.

He saw his new man as supervising the transformation of the environment portfolio from a mere crisis containment agency to a second-stage, preventive role, helping to ensure that there could be no repetition of pollution disasters such as the Sandoz scandal (chemicals dumped into the Rhine near Basle, polluting the river for hundreds of miles downstream).

The list of tasks facing Ministry staff is endless, ranging from vehicle emission (diesel exhaust, previously rated environmentally A1, is now viewed more critically) to standardisation of smog regulations.

Like Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle, Herr Töpfer soon finds himself confronted by European restraints.

The ban on leaded premium-grade petrol Bonn is keen to see come into force at the beginning of next year, uniform European Community ceilings for toxin counts in the air and water, purification of the North Sea — these are all issues that call for international negotiation.

That often means agreement on the lowest common denominator.

The German Chemical Industry Association has given the Minister an assurance that it will stop manufacturing spraycans with halogen-based spray gas by 1990. These gases are known to endanger the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere.

That will be a step in the right direction in Germany, but elsewhere in Europe there are no signs of progress toward a ban on fluorine spray gas.

Bonn spends 20 per cent more on controlling atmospheric and water pollution than neighbouring France, which leads to competitive distortion within the European Community.

What is more, with prevailing westerly winds, static and vehicle emission from neighbouring countries continues to blow over the Federal Republic despite German industry's heavy investment in and commitment to controlling its own pollution.

Yet the Bonn government has still to enact legislation on mandatory testing of environmentally hazardous activities, agreement having been reached in the European Community on national legislation to this effect.

North Sea pollution, Herr Töpfer feels, could emerge this year as a no less important issue than pollution of the Rhine last year.

He has carefully sounded out the prospects, in talks with his opposite numbers in the capital cities of other North Sea countries, for the next round of North Sea talks.

Unlike Herr Zimmermann, who was fond of bluntly confronting his colleagues in the Brussels Council of Ministers with his demands and was given the brush-off accordingly, Herr Töpfer prefers the art of gentle persuasion.

This approach may prove more successful in, say, arriving at agreement on Community static emission regulations along German lines. Talks have been under way for three years.

First, however, Herr Töpfer has to set out with a begging bowl. His Ministry is undermanned. He has submitted to the Chancellor a list of requests ranging from infrastructure to wider powers, and Herr Kohl has given him a number of assurances.

But fellow-Ministers, especially Finance Minister Stoltenberg, are far from enthusiastic about proposals that involve expense and will entitle the Environment Ministry to a say in the affairs of other departments.

Herr Töpfer is fond of beer and a game of *Skat*, the national card game, but he admits to being a workoholic. That is definitely a quality required for his job.

His ability to create a favourable public impression of himself and his Ministry's activities will indirectly benefit the Chancellor's reputation, as Herr Kohl was well aware when he made the appointment.

Herr Töpfer in turn realises that no matter how thorough and efficient his work is, his public reputation (and he is keen to earn acclaim) could be ruined by a single new environmental scandal — if he fails to handle it satisfactorily.

If, on the other hand, he contains the next crisis he could well emerge from

Continued on page 13

MEDICINE

Horror results of research without morality recalled

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Some of the more morally bankrupt chapters in scientific, especially medical, history were discussed at this year's Lindau gathering of Nobel laureates.

Much has come to light in the past few years about deeds committed without moral scruple. Maurice Wilkins of London, who shared with an American and a fellow-Briton, Watson and Crick, the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1962 for cracking genetic codes, has taken a closer look at the past.

From his studies of medical research records he told the gathering about some of the inhuman experiments of a few decades ago.

Had it not been for technical difficulties US scientists would, for instance, have produced the anthrax spores with which Churchill, backed by British doctors, planned to flood Germany.

Experiments by Japanese doctors on prisoners of war, especially Chinese PoWs, were particularly appalling. They were dissected and deep-frozen alive, for instance.

Yet US doctors were so keen to find out the results of these experiments that Japanese medical researchers were not tried, convicted and sentenced as war criminals; their findings had to be unearthed and utilised.

The same was true of "scientific work" by German doctors on concentration camp prisoners. The social Darwinism of "curing by killing" made perfect sense, Wilkins said, in a society that fully accepted the killing by and death of young soldiers in the war.

It also accepted the annihilation of the Jews and other "sub-humans" — the Japanese called their deep-frozen human guinea pigs "logs."

A little pressure from above was enough to make society abandon traditional views on morality.

Wilkins spared a word of praise for the handful of heroes who refused to become "bent" research scientists under wartime pressure.

The British Medical Research Council refused to accept Churchill's anthrax idea, while Japanese Buddhists rejected experiments on prisoners.

Members of the White Rose group in Munich, who protested against the crimes committed by the Third Reich, were mainly medical students.

Wilkins would like to see research scientists show a greater sense of moral responsibility, but limits himself at present to military research.

"You aren't a true scientist if you work in arms research," he said. But he and his colleagues were most restrained in the debate on moral aspects of their own research.

Here too, Wilkins was critical only of military research. In the United States, he said, the Pentagon was financing up to 40 genetic engineering projects aimed at biological warfare.

It did so under cover of developing vaccines to combat weapons of biological warfare.

The ideas under consideration included that of using ethnic differences to devise germs that attacked specific races, producing a biotech epidemic that affects, say, only black or yellow races.

For some time scientists have seriously wondered whether the Aids virus might not have been released in an accident at a US biotech laboratory engaged in military research.

The possibility was mentioned at a Lindau press conference. Geneticists were horrified and most upset. Renato Dulbecco, a tumour virus researcher from San Diego, Cal., said the rumours were sheer science fiction.

Wilkins said there was no proof whether they were science fiction or fact. Dulbecco replied that much more was now known about the affinity between the Aids virus and viruses from which monkeys suffer.

It was nonsense to accept the theory that the Aids virus was the result of genetic manipulation — a theory for which there was not a shred of evidence — when there were many pointers to the likelihood of the virus having originated naturally.

Wilkins summarised his colleagues' opinion as that the theory of Aids being a man-made virus was "so improbable that it would be unreasonable to assume it to be true."

Nobel laureates in the platform debate on the ethical problems of their work went on to stress the substantial benefit genetic engineering was expected to generate, especially in medicine.

Research scientists were well aware that problems existed, but felt they could be solved, while Wilkins again voiced a critical view.

Intercontinental operating theatre hook-up

This intercontinental video hook-up between hospitals in Hanover and Peking was done through the Intelsat communications satellite. A doctor adds a commentary as an operation in Hanover's Nordstadt hospital is transmitted (surgeon shown on left-hand screen), enabling doctors in Peking (on right-hand screen) to watch it live. (Photo: dpa)

We still don't know how many genes man has. Estimates range from 40,000 to 200,000. Four thousand had so far been identified, Dulbecco said, and the exact structure of 400 had been analysed. "So we still know very little."

Yet he says there may be a possibility of finding out soon whether individuals with different genetic make-ups are better able to cope, say, with environmental toxins.

Exact genetic analysis may also soon show at an early age whether someone is likely to suffer from Alzheimer's disease, a form of progressive senile imbecility, from which up to 20 per cent of the population suffer.

The telltale 21st chromosome is probably to blame; it is also the cause of mongolism, as Daniel Gajdusek from Bethesda, Md., told the conference.

Geneticists felt it was for politics, not for research scientists, to ensure that this foreknowledge was not used to discriminate against people at work or in connection with, say, insurance premiums.

Despite serious difficulties scientists expect genetic engineering to come up in the years ahead with means of helping people suffering from certain congenital complaints.

They include anaemia and a complaint accompanied by a lack of immune cells and haemophilia, said Daniel Nathans of Baltimore.

He, fellow-American Hamilton Smith and Werner Arber of Switzerland shared their Nobel Prize for discovering the so-called restriction enzymes that make the dissection of genes possible — and with it genetic engineering itself.

All three scientists attended the Lindau gathering and took part in the debate.

Genetic therapy can in principle be carried out on somatic, body cells, with the patient being cured but the genetic defect being transmitted to his descendants.

Manipulation can also be carried out on germ cells or spores but was, Nathans said, extremely difficult because most germ cells died in the process.

But once the method succeeded, a child resulting from cell manipulation in this way would be genetically healthy. Nathans rejects manipulation of human cells as morally irresponsible.

There was also, Dulbecco said, the risk of a genetically transplanted gene taking root in the wrong place. That would really be a step in the direction of Frankenstein.

Nathans said the effect of biologically effective misconstructions had yet to be observed in mammal cells.

There was no disputing the risks involved in manipulated plants or micro-organisms escaping from research laboratories.

They might replace natural organisms and thoroughly upset the balance of the environment. Nathans said these risks must be discussed in public and in exhaustive detail. Scientists must be absolutely frank and conceal none of the facts.

Yet the Lindau laureates were not categorically opposed to releasing manipulated organisms. Step by step tests must be carried out in each and every case to determine whether risks arose.

Wilkins warned genetic engineers and biotech research scientists against over-confidence in their own abilities and a too negligent approach.

He recalled that British scientists working on the smallpox virus a few years ago had allowed micro-organisms to escape from the laboratory, fatally infecting several people.

The scientist who was to blame (he committed suicide) was his university's safety officer responsible for protecting the public from harm resulting from microbiological research.

Martin Urban

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich 6 July 1987)

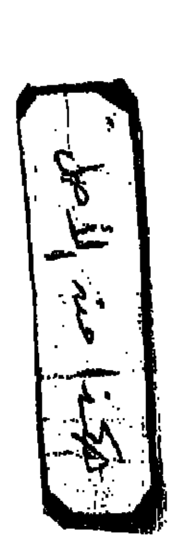
Continued from page 12

being a virtual unknown in nationwide terms to enjoying the reputation held by Helmut Schmidt after the 1962 Hamburg floods.

Herr Schmidt, who was Home Affairs Senator in his native Hamburg in 1962 and made a great success of coordinating rescue operations, was hailed as a national hero and went on to greater things.

Martin Bernstorf

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 26 June 1987)



■ ESPIONAGE

Spies trip up over a postman's boots

Saarbrücker Zeitung

East Germany's secret service, its *Staatssicherheitsdienst*, has shown itself to be as capable of blundering human error as the next man in spite of using ever more sophisticated methods.

The case of the Spies Who Kicked An Own Goal was achieved in collaboration with the East German postal authority, or at least a junior and obedient servant of that organisation.

The West German counter-espionage agency, the *Verfassungsschutz*, says that after the big East German success in 1985 when Hansjoachim Tiedge, third in command of the agency, defected to the East, the West Germans have hit back.

That year 18 East Berlin spies were arrested. In 1986, a total of 43 more East Bloc spies were discovered, 26 of them from East Germany. And two of them were foiled by the postman.

A package arrived from West Germany in Dresden, in East Germany. A postman saw something about the package that offended his orderly official mind. He took a closer look and found that it infringed East German postal regulations. So regulations, being regulations, must be obeyed. The package had to go back to the sender.

What the postman was not to know was that the Dresden address was a cover address used by the Ministry of State Security. That package was returned but, naturally, the senders' name was false.

The West German Bundespost was unable to find them and it waited for the prescribed amount of time to elapse before opening the package and examining its contents for a clue as to who the sender might be.

Imagine the surprise when the package was opened. It contained the cleaning head of a vacuum-cleaner. Packed inside was a quantity of film negatives. The *Verfassungsschutz* was notified and was able to trace the senders, a married couple.

He worked as a material quality controller with the American forces in Kaiserslautern and she worked for a private firm which supplied the Americans. Both had spied for East Berlin for many years and had often sent mail to the cover address in Dresden. He has been jailed for three years and she a suspended sentence of one and a half years.

The East Berlin ministry keeps up its struggle to recruit moles in West German security forces. An anonymous small advertisement appeared in a newspaper: "Open-minded, flexible person seeks long-term part-time work on the principle of good work for good money."

The local *Verfassungsschutz* man smelled a rat and reported a presumed Ministry of State Security attempt to make contact. He was advised to play along. A Herr König, an East Berlin agent, ordered the *Verfassungsschutz* man to West Berlin and told him he could throw material over the fence. He meant the Wall.

In accordance with what Herr König had said, he rang a telephone number that had been given to him. He was told that he should fetch a letter that had been sent to a post office box number in West Berlin and then telephone again.

The letter contained 2000 marks in four 500-mark notes, a map of the city, and a typed note: "Dear Sporting Friend, we are happy that we will be able to walk together in Gartenstadt Frohnau. We will meet under the old Stadtbahn bridge that goes over the Neubrücker Strasse. The area is described on the map. A representative of the walking group König will await you there. With friendly greetings." The signature was illegible. König was arrested.

Brigitte F. (her real name has been withheld) is an employee of the Bundeswehr's (West German army's) telecommunications section. She was on holiday in the Allgäu with her boyfriend, known for the purposes of the story only as Harald B., when a gentleman calling himself Dr Lantsch appeared on the scene and introduced himself as a businessman.

At first he showed interest in doing business with Harald B., also a businessman, and very quickly handed out about 8000 marks for various expenses. Both men quickly became friendly.

Dr Lantsch invited them to a casino. Later he declared quite openly that he was an employee of the East Berlin Ministry of State Security and that he wanted to hire Brigitte as a spy.

He argued so persuasively about world peace and how Brigitte could serve it that the couple maintained contact with him. He invited them both to a weekend in Venice where they stayed at a luxury hotel.

He gave them presents and, at a sumptuous evening in Venice, he slipped Harald 1,000 marks "for expenses." The next day as they played roulette, he gave them 5,000 marks.

But despite this rare display of high spending, it was all in vain. Brigitte F. told her Bundeswehr superiors and counter-espionage. Dr Lantsch had to return to East Berlin with the message that apart from a good time by all, little had happened.

East Berlin often uses far less pleasant methods to get results. Christian P. came to West Germany from East Germany in 1950. Recently he visited relatives in East Germany.

According to the *Verfassungsschutz*, a Ministry of State Security agent met the man and accused him of preparing an escape to the West for his relatives. For that, he would have to reckon with arrest and eight years in jail. He would

Continued on page 15

New East Berlin spymaster is a man without a face

DIE WELT

His opponents know what he does, they know his age, they know his name and know his address. But they don't know what he looks like. Werner Grossmann, the new East Berlin secret service chief, is a man without a face.

The face of his predecessor, Markus ("Mischa") Wolf, was known for almost 30 years in the West through a photograph taken when he was a young man covering the Nuremberg war-crime hearings in 1946 for East Berlin radio and a Soviet news agency.

Wolf's opponent in East-West espionage, West Germany's General Reinhard Gehlen, managed while he was in the *Bundesnachrichtendienst* to prevent current photographs of him being published.

But one did get through: as he stood on the steps of the Lower Saxon State assembly building in Hanover he was caught in a snapshot with hat pushed deep over his forehead and eyes behind dark glasses.

A mystery

So far, there has been no such luck for Grossmann's opponents. Wolf left the job at his own wish at the beginning of this year at the age of 64. What he is doing now remains a mystery. The only record in Western files is his service address: c/- Ministry of State Security, Normannenstrasse 22, Berlin-Lichtenberg.

Grossmann has pulled this cloak of anonymity over his entire career. Silence reigns over his appointment as head of the foreign information section of East Berlin's *Staatssicherheitsdienst*.

The function of the unit is well enough known: to obtain and assess information from the western part of Germany; to recruit agents in non-communist foreign countries; to do counter espionage work; to distribute disinformation; and to support revolutionary movements in foreign countries. Important is sabotage.

Services in the west have little to go on for their files: Grossmann is about 65. He comes from Silesia, which is now part of Poland and, after the war was educated in the Soviet Union and later trained in the East Berlin Ministry for State Security.

He is a major general in the State secret service but is not, as Wolf was, a deputy minister. Grossmann is responsible to lieutenant general Rudi Mittig, since 1969 the deputy Minister for State Security.

Mittig is also a member of the East Berlin party central committee. It seems that the party wants to take a closer interest in intelligence than it did in Wolf's time.

Grossmann however has been seen once in recent times. Nine years ago, he was in Stockholm with Wolf to meet a contact from West Germany. Grossmann was then Wolf's deputy in succession to Lieutenant General Fruck, an old communist from the Stalin era who had been pensioned off.

At first, experts in the West thought that the appearance of both Wolf and his deputy together in a foreign country, even a neutral country, was an unlikely occurrence. They thought the report must have been wrong.

But then in the following year, in 1979, a defector from the East Berlin security service called Werner Stiller identified his former boss, Wolf, in photographs. Grossmann was not in any photograph.

The West German weekly magazine, *Der Spiegel*, remarked on the fact that, of all people, the East Berlin spy master had been caught in an unguarded moment by a casual photographer.

Wolf, using the cover name of Dr Kurt Werner, and with a diplomatic passport, travelled with Grossmann to Sweden through Finland. In premises used by the East Berlin embassy in Stockholm, he was introduced to a senior member of the West German Social Democrat party, a doctor in northern Bavaria and a member of the SPD's national executive.

Another weekly magazine, *Stern*, reported that Wolf had decided that the doctor's high position in the Social Democrats and his friendship with the Franconian party boss, Bruno Friedrich, was enough to make a personal trip to a foreign country worthwhile.

But since this trip, through which perhaps Wolf wanted to introduce his successor to the capitalist world, Grossmann has retired into anonymity.

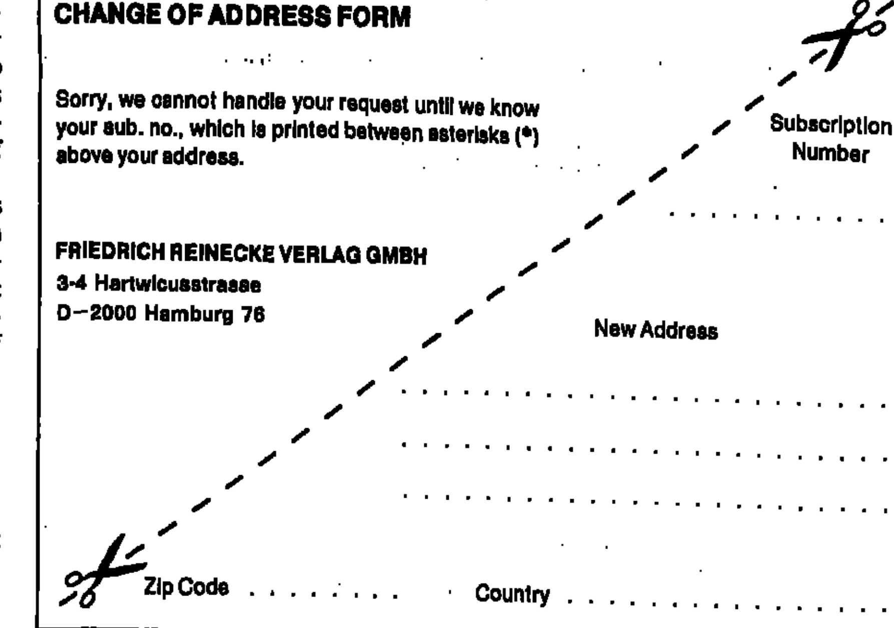
The minister responsible for East Berlin's secret services, Erik Mielke, turns 80 this year. His deputy, Mittig, is 62, and Grossmann is in his middle 60s.

East Berlin has ordered stricter anonymity for its operatives. It could point in support of it point of view to other countries. *Die Welt* wrote in 1961 that no secret service had ever been as impenetrable as Mossad, the Israeli espionage agency.

And neither it nor the British secret service had publicly known addresses like Langley, home of the CIA in the USA; Tschersinsky Place, home of the KGB; or Pullach, home of the West German *Nachrichtendienst*.

Werner Kahl

(Die Welt, Bonn, 23 June 1987)



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■ HORIZONS

Civil servants not bad chaps after all, says a survey

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

Prejudice against civil servants is largely unjustified, according to a survey by 14 students of the Lower Saxon Technical University for Administration and the Administration of Justice in Hildesheim.

The survey, which dealt with the layer of civil servants the public most coome into contact with, has come up with some surprising results.

When people think about civil servants they usually have few positive things to say about them. They say it's difficult to make meaningful contact with them. But says the survey, such views are nothing more than obsolete prejudice.

Lothar Bluhm, the project leader said: "Our project is unique. We spent five months, the last semester of our studies, investigating how civil servants dealt with inquiries about dog vaccinations, Euro-driving licences or lost purses and other such everyday matters."

The students did have to admit that their task was made easier by their previous knowledge of how the civil service works. Members of the public usually find the whole experience a lot more confusing.

Michael Fenkse investigated how people looking for career advice fared. He said they tried to be objective about the project. "We made a big effort to get rid of any possible prejudices against officials."

They went around offices applying some 150 criteria. Was the respective office in the telephone book? What were the first impressions of buildings like? Was the door difficult to open? Were there signposts? Did the rooms have unpleasant smells?

Toilets of course were also on the list. The survey investigated the condition of toilets and how civil servants reacted to personal remarks made by women asking for the toilet key?

The project produced about 22,000 data. The researchers found that 86 per cent of civil servants were helpful competent and friendly. On the negative side they found that every second department had a dismal working atmosphere and about a third were difficult to reach by public transportation.

The report had other interesting statistics to reveal. Only 66 per cent of public buildings surveyed had bicycle stands. Only 14 per cent of offices had their opening hours listed in the telephone book and after 12 noon 67.7 per cent of authorities were unavailable. However a third of the offices have introduced a weekly visiting hour between five and six p.m. These hours contribute a great deal towards bringing citizens and servants into closer contact with each other.

The report confirmed the suspicion that handicapped people have difficulties with public buildings. 52 per cent of offices had no lifts or special stairways or had entrances which were difficult to open. As the report points out there is plenty of room for improvement.

Toilets were a problem for handicapped and non-handicapped alike. The authorities are apparently not so particular about cleanliness and orderliness in public facilities. The report shows that 20 per cent of public toilets in civil service buildings are in an unacceptable condition. Which is a particular annoyance when one takes into account that people sometimes have to wait as much six hours. One usually has to wait the longest at the unemployment office.

The students found out that the safeguarding of information at some communal administrations leaves a lot to be desired. For example the town hall in Schaumburg had files lying on the floor. Any visitor who wanted to could have flicked through. In other town halls they found files lying open on desks for all to read.

The purpose of the survey was not just to find failings in the system said Lothar Bluhm. Our aim he added, "is to make students more sensitive to the problems of the public."

The students will later have the opportunity to show if they can perform better. The project was also their final examination. Once they have passed they will be qualified civil servants and be in the firing line themselves.

Hinrich Lührssen

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 28 June 1987)

Continued from page 14

be allowed to return home only when he agreed in writing to work as an East German spy.

If he didn't do what he was told to back when he returned to West Germany or if he disclosed what had happened, he might meet with a fatal traffic accident. The shocked man put his name to the paper.

Hans Wüllenweber

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 16 June 1987)

It's 40 years since corporal punishment got a general boot

On 20 June 1947, Professor Heinrich Konen, the North Rhine-Westphalian Minister for Education, took steps towards limiting corporal punishment in schools. Other Länder soon followed.

This was the beginning of the end of an ancient tradition where pupils were caned according to the principle that it was the bst way to make education sink in.

Punishments were recorded with pedantic preciseness. In the state archives at Radevormwald one can read records of what was dished out and for what.

For smoking in the toilet you got two strokes of the cane. Laziness got you four and for laughing during prayer eight.

It's not clear from the records whether punishment was of any pedagogical value. Already after the first world war modern pedagogics was of the opinion that corporal punishment was useless and counter productive.

However the Nazis lifted all restrictions on punishment. They believed that punishment toughened up the pupils.

After the second world war democratic ministers took up where they had left off. They put forward the view that human dignity was incompatible with violence.

Heinrich Konen was the first to act. The examples of corporal punishment which one still comes across he said, "are the saddest evidence that a teacher can't teach."

The new ordinances did not create a ban. In general punishment was forbidden for boys and girls at infant level. They still remained for older boys who acted in a brutal manner or as a defence measure for the teacher against attacks by pupils.

This of course was used as an excuse to carry on the old routine. It was between 1975 and 1983 that gradually a complete ban came into force.

Today schools have other measures to deal with troublesome pupils. They can discuss problems, give advice or warnings, inform parents, exclude from class, use expulsion, applicable to all schools if need be. This is by no means an exhaustive list.

Today this catalogue of punishments rarely needs to be applied. In comparison to the wild seventies, in which teachers were attacked by students and furniture demolished, the eighties are much more relaxed. Even cases of brutality amongst the students have become rarer.

Smaller classes would appear to have had a positive effect on the students. Teachers have more scope to influence pupils and to build up a partnership with them.

Today's students are also more more likely to be interested in their grades and less interested in time wasting.

Modern Germany has one of the lowest birth rates in the world. The consequences of the fallen birth rate means that schools are at pains to avoid getting a reputation for using punishment.

If a teacher does not apologise for a lapse in self-control he ends up before a disciplinary committee whose minimum punishment is expulsion or a fine.

The number of such cases amounts to about fifteen or twenty a year. Which in view of the possibilities for conflict is an astonishingly low figure.

Parents are the only ones allowed to apply corporal punishment. Although since 1979 degrading educational measures are forbidden. On the other slapping in general has not been classified as degrading by the courts.

At present legislators are debating a controversial law like one in Sweden,

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which would make it an offence for parents to hit their children.

Walter Wilken, head of the German Society for the Prevention of cruelty to children is against it. Such legislation would he said, "only encourage neighbourhood snooping."

The problem he added, "can only be solved when we succeed in convincing parents that hitting children is something that should not be done."

Horst Zimmermann

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 19 June 1987)

Wanted: work that is more than just a job

Young Germans are not indifferent towards work, but they expect "meaningful employment" and not just jobs.

The content of their work and the social organisation of their everyday working life are key aspects.

These are just some of the findings of a study by the education reseachers Hermann Budde from the Technical University of Berlin and Klaus Klemm from the University of Essen on behalf of the Hans Böckler Foundation.

The study, entitled "Youth — Training — Employment", was officially presented in Bonn.

Its findings show that young people do attach considerable importance to their working environment.

The study disproves claims that the youth of the 1980s is indifferent towards almost everything.

This conception, the study adds, "apparently exists only in the minds of those who talk about youth, but not among young people themselves."

The Hans Böckler Foundation has close ties with the trade union movement.

According to the youth study there have never been so many young people involved in learning activities in the whole of German history.

Only 36 per cent of all 13 year-old pupils are in *Hauptschulen* (extended elementary schools).

The growing number of pupils in secondary schools, comprehensive schools and grammar schools, however, does not mean that these pupils move into better qualified jobs later on.

Pupils with school-leaving certificates which theoretcially entitle them to university education, for example, are opting more and more often for an apprenticeship.

One of the central problems dealt with by the study is youth unemployment.

According to its findings the slight decline during the past two years is not the result of more economic growth.

The situation on the job market, the researchers claim, has been distorted by the fact that the persons entering the labour force were born in years with low birth rates, i.e. their total number is low in comparison with previous years, and that there is a greater demand by young people for further education and more training.

Young people who are disadvantaged by their situation at home are particularly hard hit by unemployment.

Sixteen per cent of persons belonging to the 17 to 18 year-old age group come from a home in which both father and mother are also unemployed.

Nine per cent of this group of unemployed young people were raised in a working-class family, whereas only three per cent come from a family in which the father is a civil servant.

Eighty per cent of these unemployed youngsters receive neither unemployment money nor supplementary benefit.

The study expects serious problems during the coming years for the age group of the 20 to 30 year-olds.

The rate of unemployment in this group is already very high (10.5 per cent in September 1986) and is only exceeded by the unemployment rate for the 55 to 60 year-olds (10.9 per cent).

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(Hamburger Abendblatt, 26 June 1987)